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October 22, 1980

Mr. Herbert M. Campbell, II  
Vice-President  
Ranchers Exploration and  
Development Corporation  
P. O. Box 6217  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87197

RE: Commitment to Tentative  
Approval Stipulations  
ACT/021/004  
Iron County, Utah

Dear Mr. Campbell:

The Division has reviewed the information submitted by Ranchers Exploration in reference to the stipulations attached to the letter of Conditional Tentative Approval issued August 22, 1980.

In response to your submittal, the following information is still requested before final approval can be issued.

- 1) In reference to stipulation #6. The Division recommends the following list as a guide for revegetation purposes:

<u>Species</u>	<u>lbs/ac</u>
Great Basin wildrye ( <u>Elymus cinereus</u> )	3
Indian ricegrass ( <u>Oryzopsis hymenoides</u> )	2
Western wheatgrass ( <u>Agropyron smithii</u> )	3
Slender wheatgrass ( <u>Agropyron trachycaulum</u> )	
or pubescent ( <u>A. trichophorum</u> )	2
Yellow sweetclover ( <u>Melilotus officinalus</u> )	
or Utah sweetvetch ( <u>Hedysarum boreale</u> )	3
Lewis flax ( <u>Linum lewisii</u> )	
or Arrowleaf balsamroot ( <u>Balsamorhiza sagittata</u> )	1
Palmer penstemon ( <u>Penstemon palmeri</u> )	1/2
Fourwing saltbush ( <u>Atriplex canescens</u> )	
or gardner ( <u>A. gardneri</u> )	1
Ephedra ( <u>Ephedra</u> spp.)	1
Winterfat ( <u>Ceratoides lanata</u> )	1
	<hr/>
	17 1/2 TOTAL



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Shrubs for planting in depression areas where snow would tend to accumulate:

Antelope bitterbrush (Pursia tridentata)  
Utah serviceberry (Amelanchier alnifolia)

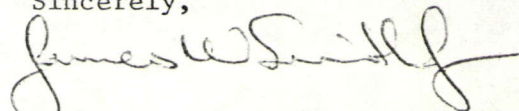
\*These are only recommendations, but at least 16 lbs of seed/ac must be used and more than five species. The grass:forb:shrub ratio should be kept at approximately 2:1:1. The use of containerized seedlings is encouraged for special and/or difficult areas.

- 2) In reference to stipulation #4. Perhaps this stipulation was misconstrued in its context. The Division requests final reclamation plans for the tailings disposal site in reference to the protection and prevention of possible contamination of the natural hydrologic regime by future exposure of the tailings materials due to potential postmining erosion. Will the original drainage configurations be restored within the area, and if so, will natural drainage patterns channel the surface flow across the tailings disposal site, or will this area be recontoured to divert runoff around this area?
- 3) In reference to stipulation #8. The Division cannot accept Rancher's commitment to monitor the postmining recovery of the regionally affected aquifer or to provide adequate renumeration to adversely affected parties for a period of only one year. As the stipulation states under 8.(a), Ranchers should provide a commitment to monitor postmining aquifer recovery replacement and/or renumeration to adversely affected parties until such time that sufficient data is documented to substantiate aquifer reestablishment to the normal predicted level. This does not limit the commitment to a one year period or less, whichever is sooner (Title 40-8-12[1][a][b][c] of the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act).
- 4) In reference to stipulation #9. To date, the Division has not received notification from Dee Hansen, State Engineer (Utah State Division of Water Rights, Dam Safety), that final approval of design specifications for the tailings disposal area have been issued to Ranchers.

Upon receipt and review of this requested information, final approval may be issued to Ranchers Exploration and Development Corporation for their Escalante silver mining operations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call myself or Wayne Hedberg.

Sincerely,



JAMES W. SMITH, JR.  
COORDINATOR OF MINED  
LAND DEVELOPMENT